

COUNTRY

Finsterwalde Airfield

TOPIC

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 11 September 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 7 and 7:30 a.m. on 17 July 1952, take-offs and landings were practiced by type-27 jet bombers, including 11 [redacted]

(1) Two light blue tank trucks were blocked up in the fuel dump.

(2)

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2. For a period of 3 to 4 weeks, 10 to 12 canvas-covered guns which were guarded by sentries have been observed behind a special fence north of the two eastern hangars. Barrels were observed in an earthbunker located behind a wire fence about 50 meters north of the guns. This earthbunker which was also guarded by sentries, had been erected about the time when the guns arrived at the field.

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3. On 7 August, nine jet bombers of both types [redacted] were observed on the taxiway of the field. (1) Between 30 July and 16 August, 348,900 liters of gasoline were dispatched to [redacted] and 351,500 liters to [redacted]. (3)

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4. Between 22 July and 4 August, only individual take-offs and landings by jet bombers were observed at the field. About 11 a.m. on 26 July, six Pe-2s landed at intervals of about 20 seconds. It was not observed that the planes took off. Between 5 and 6 p.m. on 29 July, 11 jet bombers of both types were counted at the field. No other planes were observed. (1)

5. Eight AA guns, including one of 85-mm caliber, were observed just west of the western hangar. Along the edge of the woods south of the AA guns there were 15 to 20 trucks one of which had a closed superstructure. Behind the latter truck stood a trailer having the shape of a generator. Nine tents and 37-mm guns were observed about 200 meters to the west. The AA gun emplacement on the northern edge of the field was still occupied.

6. The fence around the field was completed along the northwestern and southern sides. (4)

7. The following observations were made at the field between 31 July and 12 August:

31 July. Between 8 and about 10 a.m., there was local flying by about 3 jet bombers.

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Two groups of five jet bombers of both types were observed in a line in front of the hangars. Five of the planes appeared to be new, while the other five aircraft seemed to be old.

3 August. No flying was observed from the town throughout the day.

5 August. Between 7 and 11 a.m., there was flying by jet bombers. The following take-offs and landings were observed:

Take-Off	Landing	Aircraft
7:45 a.m.		type-30 plane
7:49 a.m.		type-27 plane
8:00 a.m.		type-30 plane
8:12 a.m.	8:06 a.m.	type-30 plane
8:15 a.m.		type-30 plane
		type-27 plane

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(1)

At 5 p.m., 11 jet bombers parked in two groups and a DC-3 plane were observed at the field. At 5:05 p.m., a DC-3 plane [] took off.

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8 August. At 10:25 a.m., nine jet bombers took off at intervals of 30 seconds, assembled in a formation and crossed the field in a squadron wedge formation. The planes landed at 10:50 a.m., at intervals of about 30 seconds.

9 August. Between 9 and 11 a.m., [] that there was air activity. At 4 p.m., 10 jet bombers were counted at the field.

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10 and 11 August. No air activity was observed.

12 August. A jet bomber took off at 10:12 a.m., circled once over the field and landed at 10:40 a.m. The noise of a starting engine was heard at 10:47 a.m. At 10:54 a.m., a type-30 jet bomber landed at the field. Flying continued up to about 5 p.m. Four type-27 jet bombers [] participated in flying []

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8. AA guns of 85-mm caliber were still emplaced on the northern edge of the field. Their barrels pointed almost vertically upward.

9. The radio truck which had been observed at the radio installation with four masts on 31 July was no longer there on 5 August.

10. [] the 15 Pe-2s which took off from the field at 1 p.m. on 27 March 1952 had formerly been conspicuously parked in front of the hangars. After 27 March, they were no longer observed. (1)

11. Between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on 12 August, there was no flying at the field. The field was heavily guarded. []

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Comments.

(1) The statements of [] that flying was practiced individually and in formation show that the unit at Finsterwalde airfield has progressed in air training. The 6 Pe-2s observed undoubtedly do not represent the total aircraft strength. Additional Pe-2s are believed to be parked in the hangars. Of the 17 type-27 planes seven were observed at Brand airfield. These planes were probably stationed only temporarily in Finsterwalde. The remaining 10 planes coincide with the number of planes counted on four days []. It is still believed that the two bomber regiments are equipped with 10 to 12 type-27 planes and an undetermined number of Pe-2s. The information that 15 Pe-2s took off at 1 p.m. on 27 March 1952 was previously reported [].

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(2) []
(3) []
(4) Work on the fence around the field is still in progress.

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